

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0014] with the following amended paragraph:

[0014] The filter 1 shown in FIG. 1 is employed to clean the waste gases of particularly a self-igniting internal combustion engine, said waste gases containing particles, especially soot particles, as well as particle constituents, especially ashes. In particular, the ashes are burned constituents of the lubricating oil of the internal combustion engine and, in contrast to the particles, cannot be separated out from the filter 1, particularly a soot filter, by means of thermal or other regeneration methods. In the filter 1, the particles as well as the particle constituents are removed from the waste gas, whose direction of flow 2 into the filter 1 on the inlet side is indicated by the arrows. This is done in that the filter 1 is surrounded by a housing having an inlet that, in an inlet area, feeds the waste gases on the raw gas side into raw gas channels 3. The raw gas channels 3 are open towards a collecting chamber 4 located in the filter 1, although the collecting chamber 4 is only connected to a receiving device 5 configured as a collecting container. The collecting chamber 4 is formed by a closure wall 15 that is at least partially openable at the receiving device 5. The collecting chamber 4 as well as the receiving device 5 are tightly sealed vis-a-vis the environment (only in the receiving device 5 can an opening--which will be elaborated upon below--be created for purposes of attaining a slight flow). In this manner, the waste gas is forcibly passed through the filter wall 8 or filter walls 8 that separate a raw gas channel 3 from a clean gas channel 7. The clean gas channels 7 open up into an outlet area of the housing that is separate from the inlet area, said outlet area being connected to an outlet in the housing wall. In the embodiment shown in FIG. 1, the raw gas channels 3 as well as the clean gas channels 7 are designed as flat channels that are arranged, for example, at an approximately right angle relative to each other or else on top of each other in an alternating manner, so that a clearly visible filter structure is obtained. While the stream is passing through the filter 1 or, to put it more precisely, is penetrating the filter walls 8, the particles as well as the particle constituents are filtered out of the waste gas and remain in the raw gas channels 3, normally adhering to the place where the waste gas penetrates the filter wall 8. Then, by means of a continuous or discontinuous regeneration process, the particles are removed without leaving residues, whereas the particle constituents at first remain at that particular place on the filter wall. Especially as a

result of the pulsation of the waste gas stream, which can be intentionally caused or intensified if so desired, the particle constituents break loose from the filter wall 8 and move in the direction of the collecting chamber 4 and accumulate in a receiving device 5 in the form of an agglomerate 6 of particle constituents. This movement is enhanced or intensified if the above-mentioned opening in the receiving device 5 brings about a slight flow velocity in this direction.